other remedies thoſe protuberances were gone, nor are there any footſteps left of the abovementioned Diſeaſe.

The *two* other Trials were made upon the *other* Sex. A married Woman of 35, and a ſerving Maid of 20 years of age, had been both of them from their Birth very grievouſly afflicted with *Epileptick* fits, ſo that there was little hopes left to cure them. They both underwent this operation, and there was injected into their Veins a *Laxative Roſin*, diſſolved in an *Anti-Epileptical* Spirit. The *firſt* of theſe had gentle ſtools, ſome hours after the Injection, and the next day the fits recurring now and then, but much milder, are ſince altogether vaniſh'd. As for the other, *viz.* the *Maid*, ſhe went the ſame day to ſtool four times, and ſeveral times the next; but by going into the Air, and taking cold, and not obſerving any diet, caſt her ſelf away.

'Tis remarkable, that it was common to all three to vomit ſoon after the injection, and that extreamly and frequently; the reaſon whereof we leave to intelligent Phyſicians to aſſign.

An Extract

Of a Letter, written from the Bermudas, *giving an account of the Courſe of the* Tides *there; of* Wells *both* ſalt *and* ſweet, *digg'd near the Sea; of the* Whale-fiſhing *there practiſed anew, and of ſuch* Whales *as have the* Sperma Ceti *in them.*

This Letter was written June 18. 1667. *by that intelligent Gentleman Mr.* Richard Norwood, *living upon the place, and relating as follows.*

SIR,

I Received your Letter of *October* 24. 1666. but, whereas you mention another formerly ſent, that never came to my hands: Neither had I, before the receipt of yours, the leaſt intelligence of the Inſtitution of the *Royal Society*, founded by the King; but am very glad, that God hath put into the heart of his Majeſty, to advance ſuch a noble Deſign, and ſhould rejoyce, I were able to add my Mite for the furtherance of it. As to the particulars you recommend to me, I ſhall anſwer to them, as I can, in the order I find them.

Firſt, touching the Conjunction of *Mercury* with the *Sun*,

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which you ſay you gave me notice of in your firſt, not received, and which happened *Octob.* 25. 1664. I had alſo notice of it from Mr. *Street*, and had provided in ſome meaſure to obſerve it; but the ſky was ſo overcaſt, that the Sun could ſcarce be diſcerned all that day.

Next, concerning the *Tides*, I have only taken a general notice of them; as, that it is high water about 7 of the clock on the *Change* day (in ſome Creeks an hour or two later.) The water riſeth but little, as about 4 foot at a high water; but at the Spring-tides it may be a foot more. The Tides *without* are very various in their ſetting. Sometimes the Tide of Floud ſets to the *Eaſtward*, ſometimes to the *Weſtward*: but in fair, calm, and ſetled weather, the ſaid Tide ſets from the *South-eaſt* toward the *North-weſt*, as they ſay.

We digg *Wells* of *freſh water* ſometimes within 20 yards of the Sea or leſs, which riſe and fall upon the Floud, and ebb as the Sea doth; and ſo do moſt of the Wells in the Country, though further up (as I am inform'd.) Whereſoever they digg Wells here, they digg till they come almoſt to a Level with the ſuperficies of the Sea, and then they find either *freſh* water or *ſalt*. If it be *freſh*, yet if they digg two or three foot deeper, or often leſs, they come to *ſalt* water. If it be a ſandy ground, or a ſandy crumbling Stone, that the water ſoaks gently through, they find uſually *freſh* water; but if they be hard Limeſtone-Rocks, which the water cannot ſoak through, but paſſeth in chinks or clefts between them, the water is ſalt or brackiſh. Yet (to mention that by the by) I never ſaw any Sand in the Country ſuch as will grind Glaſs, or whet Knives, *&c.* as in *England*, but a ſubſtance like Sand, though much ſofter; neither have we any *Peble-ſtones* or *Flint*.

For the *killing* of *Whales*, it hath been formerly attempted in vain, but within theſe two or three years, in the Spring-time and fair weather, they take ſometimes one, or two, or three in a day. They are leſs, I hear, than thoſe in *Greenland*, but more quick and lively, ſo that if they be ſtruck in deep water, they preſently make into the deep with ſuch violence, that the Boat is in danger to be haled down after them, if they cut not the Rope in time; therefore they uſually ſtrike them in ſhoal-water. They have

have very good Boats for that purpoſe, mann'd with ſix Oars, ſuch as they can row forwards or backwards, as occaſion requireth. They row up gently to the Whale, and ſo he will ſcarcely ſhun them; and when the Harpineer, ſtanding ready fitted, ſees his opportunity, he ſtrikes his Harping-Iron into the Whale about or before the Fins, rather than toward the Tail. Now the Harping-Irons are like thoſe, which are uſual in *England* in ſtriking Porpoiſes; but ſingular good metal, that will not break, but wind, as they ſay, about a man's hand. To the Harping-Irons is made faſt a ſtrong lythe Rope, and into the Socket of that Iron is put a Staff, which, when the Whale is ſtruck, comes out of the Socket; and ſo when the Whale is ſomething quiet, they hale up to him by the Rope, and, it may be, ſtrike into him another Harping-Iron, or lance him with Lances in ſtaves, till they have kill'd him. This I write by relation, for I have not ſeen any kill'd my ſelf. I hear not, that they have found any *Sperma Ceti* in any of *theſe* Whales; but I have heard from credible perſons, that there is a kind of ſuch as have the *Sperma* at *Elutheria*, and others of the *Bahama* Iſlands (where alſo they find often quantities of *Amber-greece*) and that thoſe have great Teeth (which ours have not) and are very ſinewy. One of this place (*John Perinchief*) found one there dead, driven upon an Iſland, and, though I think ignorant in the buſineſs, yet got a great quantity of *Sperma Ceti* out of it. It ſeems, they have not much Oyl, as ours, but this Oyl, I hear, is at firſt like *Sperma Ceti*; but they clarifie it, I think, by the fire. When I ſpeak with him (whom I could not meet with at preſent, and now the Ship is ready to ſet ſail) I ſhall endeavour to be further informed; but at preſent with the tender of my humbly ſervice to the *Royal Society*, and commending your Noble Deſign to the bleſſing of the Almighty, I take my leave, *&c.*